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HUNGARIAN WEATHER REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1951

Zoltan Ozorai

The weather during October was cool and dry. Average temperatures for the month were generally 1-1.5 degrees (all degrees centigrade) lower than average, except at Veszprem (1.9 degrees lower), Debrecen (2 degrees lower), and Miskolc (2.2 degrees lower). These variations are greater than usual and occur infrequently. Mildest temperatures, although still 0.7-0.9 degree lower than usual, were recorded at Keszthely, Salgotarjan, Budapest, and Pecs.

Precipitation was below normal. Extensive areas, especially in the north-eastern counties, received no rainfall, and precipitation in many localities did not exceed one millimeter. Along the southern border comparatively more rainfall was recorded (15-20 millimeters). Precipitation at the following communities was below normal: at Gyulavari 33 millimeters (75 percent of normal); at Felsoszentmarton 30 (40 percent); at Mako 29 (62 percent); at Fehergyarmat 29 (58 percent); at Csehimindszent 27 (44 percent); at Szigetvar 26 (37 percent); at Sellye 25 (34 percent); at Fulopszallas 23 (51 percent); at Barcs 22 (28 percent); and at Bataapati 22 millimeters (36 percent). Fehergyarmat received 29 millimeters on 1 October and none during the remainder of the month.

A similarly dry October was recorded in 1908, when precipitation at Budapest was 2 millimeters, as compared with 4 millimeters this year. However, in 1908 precipitation amounted to more than 10 millimeters in most parts of the country, while October 1951 was the driest October in the 20th Century.

The 1st of October was generally the warmest day of the month. The high was 19-21 degrees, but even higher temperatures were recorded at the following cities: Pecs and Budapest 21.4 degrees, Kaposvar 21.5, Szeged 21.6, Eger 22.2, and Baja 23.2. On 1 October, a cold wave arrived from the northeast, causing showers in several localities and storms in the eastern counties.

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On 2 October, the cold wave reached the western counties, causing precipitation not exceeding 3 millimeters, and a drop of a few degrees in diurnal temperature. In Sopron, the high temperature was 14 degrees. The temperature continued to drop, especially at night. On the 4th, the temperature fell to 5 degrees in several localities, and on the 5th, surface frost occurred east of the Tisza.

On the 7th and 8th, rain fell mainly in the southern counties: at Bankut and Mako 11 millimeters, Battonya 10, Gyulavari 20, Szeged 12, and Lengyel 11 millimeters. These amounts constitute a substantial part of the total October precipitation, although they would have been regarded as light rainfall for any other month. The precipitation was caused by a polar cold mass, which displaced the mild Mediterranean waves in the Carpathian Basin. With the movement of polar air waves, diurnal high temperature continued to drop. On the 8th, at Nagykanyizsa the high was 8 degrees with surface frost on the 9th.

In part of the country the low was reached on the 11th: -3.4 degrees at Salgotarjan, -4.1 at Miskolc, -4.4 at Parad, and -5 at Putnok. On the following days, calm, dry weather prevailed, caused by the arrival of a mild air mass from the southwestern region of the USSR which gradually warmed up the cold polar wave. However, nocturnal frost occurred again, and the temperature, after the movement of a new cold wave, dropped on the 15th, 16th, and 18th.

On the 15th, the temperature at Szombathely and Szentgotthard dropped to -2.5 degrees, on the 16th at Mosonmagyaróvár to -3, and on the 18th at Salgotarjan to -3.4 degrees, while near the surface the following temperatures were recorded: on the 15th at Szombathely -4.6 degrees, and at Kalocsa -5.6; on the 16th at Baja -4, and at Mosonmagyaróvár -5.6; and on the 18th at Parad -8.5 degrees. Diurnal temperature rose to 14-17 degrees. Diurnal temperature during this period rose in general only to 14-17 degrees. From the 12th to the 18th, there was no precipitation in the whole country.

After this calm period, there were more clouds, but only slight rain fell. With the arrival of mild maritime air masses, the temperature rose again. Nocturnal frost was more moderate and, after the 23d, even the surface frost disappeared. Diurnal temperature again reached 20 degrees in several localities, with 21 degrees recorded at Békéscsaba on the 23d. After the 25th, the temperature gradually dropped as the result of the displacement of the south wind by a southeastern wind. On the 28th, surface frosts were recorded again.

On the 30th and 31st, temperatures fell below the freezing point in numerous localities, even at greater elevations. On the 30th, -5.1 degrees were recorded at an elevation of 1½ meters at Debrecen and Nyíregyháza. At Nyíregyháza, the temperature near the surface dropped to -7.9 degrees, and at Debrecen to -8.4 degrees. On the 31st, similar weather conditions prevailed. Diurnal temperature rose to only 10-13 degrees in the eastern counties, and to 13-17 degrees in other parts of the country.

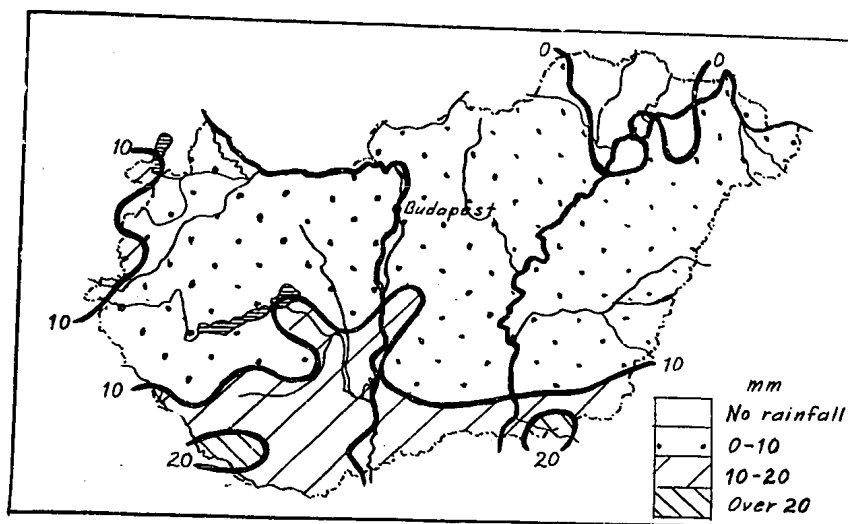
[Appended map follows.]

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Distribution of Precipitation in October 1951

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